

Early Care and Education Research Resources: Access to Early Care and Education

The Child Care and Early Education Research Connections collection catalogs resources that researchers, policymakers, and other professionals find and use for child care and early education research. The items outlined in this resource list examine families' access to early care and education (ECE) published between 2016 and 2022 in the United States and are categorized by research topic.

This resource list contains a sampling of the research housed in the Research Connections collection. We have provided a topical curated list of additional resources in the Research Connections library for further reading. You may find additional resources in the Research Connections library by searching for keywords such as “access” or “affordability.”

Resource List Topics

Topics in this research resource include the following:

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- [Universal prekindergarten](#)

Affordability

[*Access to Early Care and Education for Disadvantaged Families: Do Levels of Access Reflect States' Child Care Subsidy Policies?*](#) (Child Trends Report No. 2018-07). (2018). Rebecca Madill, Van-Kim Bui Lin, Sarah Friese, & Katherine W. Paschall.

[*Assessing Child Care Subsidies through an Equity Lens: A Review of Policies and Practices in the Child Care and Development Fund.*](#) (2021). Gina Adams, & Eleanor Pratt.

[Implications of Providing Child Care Assistance to Parents in Education and Training](#). (2022). Gina Adams, Linda Giannarelli, Nathan Sick, & Kelly Dwyer.

[Inequitable Access to Child Care Subsidies](#). (2019). Rebecca Ullrich, Stephanie Schmit, & Ruth Cosse.

[Mapping Access to Affordable Early Childhood Education and Care: Methodology and Application to Community Advocacy](#). (2020). Javzandulam T. Azuma, Barbara Diane DeBaryshe, Kathleen T. Gauci, & Ivette Rodriguez Stern.

[The Economic Impact of America's Child Care Gap: The Cost of the Child Care Gap to Parents, Businesses, and Taxpayers](#). (2021). Benjamin Wolters, Daniel Jerrett, Anubhav Bagley, & Linda K. Smith.

[The Impact of Child Care Subsidy Changes on Access to Quality Care in Michigan: Evidence from Administrative Data](#). (2021). Public Policy Associates, Incorporated.

[The State of Child Care for Babies: The Need to Do Better for Our Youngest Children](#). (2021). Daniel Hains, & Ashley Neuenswander.

[2019 NSECE Snapshot: Child Care Cost Burden for U.S. Households with Children under Age 5](#) (OPRE Report #2022-05). (2022). Erin Hardy, & Ji Eun Park.

[Prenatal-to-3 Policy Clearinghouse Evidence Review: Child Care Subsidies](#) (ER 07B.0921). (2021). University of Texas at Austin, Child and Family Research Partnership, Prenatal-to-3 Policy Impact Center.

[Supporting Working Families and Increasing Access to High-Quality Child Care: Voices from the Field: Roundtables Report](#). (2021). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care.

[Women, Work, and Child Care: A White Paper on the Intersection of Child Care, the Economy and Gender Equity in Vermont](#). (2018). Let's Grow Kids, & Vermont Commission on Women.

[Workplace Connections: Gender Equity, Family-Friendly Policies, and Early Childhood Care and Education](#). (2018). Pamela Winter, & Camila Mena.

Explore more [resources on child care affordability in this curated list](#) from Research Connections.

Building Infrastructure

[Advancing Racial Equity through Neighborhood-Informed Early Childhood Policies: A Research and Policy Review](#). (2021). Erin Hardy, Pamela Joshi, Madeline Leonardos, & Dolores Acevedo-Garcia.

[Child Care in 35 States: What We Know and Don't Know: Quantifying the Supply of, Potential Need For, and Gaps in Child Care Across the Country](#). (2021). Linda K. Smith, Anubhav Bagley, & Benjamin Wolters.

[Creating Coordinated Early Childhood Systems: Lessons from Louisiana's Ready Start Communities](#). (2021). Molly Michie, Kennedy Weisner, Anna J. Markowitz, Daphna Bassok, Maelee Harington, Sarah Kiscaden, Abby Rothenberg, & Amy Ela Smith.

[Expanding After School Program Access for Vulnerable Students: Examining the Efficacy of Federal Policy and Funding](#). (2021). Susan Klumpner, & Michael E. Woolley.

[Illinois Commission on Equitable Early Childhood Education and Care Funding: Commission Report of Findings and Recommendations](#). (2021). Illinois, Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development.

[Supporting Families' Access to Child Care and Early Education: A Descriptive Profile of States' Consumer Education Websites](#) (OPRE Report No. 2021-161). (2021). Patti Banghart, Zoelene Hill, Gabriella Guerra, Denise Covington, & Kathryn Tout.

Explore more [resources on building infrastructure in early care and education in this curated list](#) from Research Connections.

Children with Special Needs

[Child Care for Families Raising Children with Disabilities: The Role of Federal Policy in Equitable Access](#). (2019). Molly Costanzo, & Katherine A. Magnuson.

[Child Developmental and Special Education Service Receipt: The Intersection of Health and Poverty](#). (2022). Chin-Chih Chen, Sheng-Lun Cheng, Yaoying Xu, Christine Spence, Fa Zhang, & Nicole B. Adams.

[Our Youngest Learners: Increasing Equity in Early Intervention](#). (2021). Carrie Gillispie.

Explore more [resources on access for children with special needs in this curated list](#) from Research Connections.

Definitions of Access

[A Multi-Dimensional Definition of Child Care and Early Education Access That Is Centered on Families](#). (2020). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Administration for Children and Families; Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation.

[Conceptualizing and Measuring Access to Early Care and Education](#) (OPRE Report No. 2020-106). (2022). Dana Thomson, Emily Cantrell, Gabriella Guerra, Rachel A. Gooze, & Kathryn Tout.

[Measuring and Comparing Multiple Dimensions of Early Care and Education Access](#) (OPRE Report No. 2021-08). (2021). Katherine W. Paschall, Elizabeth E. Davis, & Kathryn Tout.

Explore more [resources on defining access in this curated list](#) from Research Connections.

Geographic Distribution

[Access to Early Care and Education in Rural Communities: Implications for Children's School Readiness](#). (2022). Taryn Morrissey, Scott W. Allard, & Elizabeth Pelletier.

[A Comprehensive Framework for Evaluating Shelby County School District's Voluntary Preschool Program: The Challenges of Equity, Choice, Efficiency, and Social Cohesion](#). (2018). Charisse Gulosino, & Phoebe Maxwell.

[Closer to Home: More Equitable Pre-k Access and Enrollment in Chicago](#). University of Chicago, Consortium on School Research; NORC; Start Early. (2020). Stacy B. Ehrlich, Maria C.

Connors, Amanda G. Stein, John Francis, John Q. Easton, Sarah E. Kabourek, & Isabel C. Farrar.

[Defining and Measuring Access to Child Care and Early Education with Families in Mind](#) (OPRE Report #2021-232). (2022). Katherine W. Paschall, & Kelly Maxwell.

[Early Childhood Programs' Scarcity Undermines Nebraska's Rural Communities](#). Council for a Strong America. (2021). Sandra J. Bishop-Josef.

[Equity and Institutions: Distributing Preschool Quality in New York City](#). (2020). Bruce Fuller, Talia Leibovitz, Declan Chin, Kaitlyn Du, Naomi Garcia, & Yoonjeon Kim.

[Expensive and Inaccessible: Childcare in Sioux Falls, South Dakota](#). (2021). Annie Olson.

[Family-Centered Measures of Access to Early Care and Education](#). (2019). Elizabeth E. Davis, Won Fy Lee, & Aaron J. Sojourner.

[Understanding Rural Parents Child Care Needs](#). (2021). Morning Consult.

Explore more [resources on geographic distribution, in this curated list](#) from Research Connections.

Head Start–Early Head Start

[Head Start United: Removing Barriers to Access for Children and Families](#). (2022). National Head Start Association.

[Prenatal-to-3 Policy Clearinghouse Evidence Review: Early Head Start](#) (ER 10B.0821). (2021). University of Texas at Austin, Child and Family Research Partnership, Prenatal-to-3 Policy Impact Center.

["There's No Off-Switch for Us:" Head Start Family Engagement Amidst COVID-19](#). (2022). Callie H. Silver, & Sarai Coba-Rodriguez.

Explore more [resources on Head Start and Early Head Start in this curated list](#) from Research Connections.

High Quality Programming

[A Framework for Promoting Access, Increasing Participation, and Providing Support in Early Childhood Classrooms](#). (2022). Christan Grygas Coogle, Sloan Storie, & Naomi L. Rahn.

[Early Childhood Education and Care Access for Children from Disadvantaged Backgrounds: Using a Framework to Guide Intervention](#). (2020). Judith Archambault, Dominique Cote, & Marie-France Raynault.

[Early learning Fact Sheet: Access to High-quality, Publicly-funded Preschool](#). (2020). Rhode Island Kids Count.

[Early Learning Fact Sheet: Funding Safe, Healthy, Quality Child Care](#). (2020). Rhode Island Kids Count.

[Jefferson Parish Early Learning: Capacity and Access Landscape Analysis](#). (2022). Sydney Ahearn, Judy Reidt-Parker, & Sarintha B. Stricklin.

[Understanding Equitable Access to Public Montessori Pre-K: A Case Study of Montessori Recruitment and Enrollment Practices.](#) (2021). Rowan Hilty, Porsche Boddicker-Young, Danielle Hegseth, Joy A. Thompson, Erin Bultinck, Jackson Fojut, & Diane Marie Early.

Explore more [resources on high quality programs in this curated list](#) from Research Connections.

Impacts of COVID-19

[Accessing Child Care During the Coronavirus Pandemic in Massachusetts.](#) (2021). Wendy Wagner Robeson

[Addressing the Impact of COVID-19 on the Early Care and Education Sector.](#) (2022). Erdal Tekin, Jacqueline Jones & Sharon Lynn Kagan

COVID-19, Early Care and Education, and Child Development. (2021). Elizabeth U. Cascio

[The Child Care Crisis: Why the Status Quo is Failing Families, Early Educators, and Our Economy.](#) (n.d.). First Five Years Fund

Explore more [resources on impacts of COVID-19 in this curated list](#) from Research Connections.

Special Populations

[Equitable Access to High-Quality Early Care and Education: Opportunities to Better Serve Young Hispanic Children and Their Families.](#) (2021) Julia Mendez Smith, Danielle A. Crosby & Christina Stephens

[Expanding Preschool Access for Children of Immigrants.](#) (2018). Erica Greenberg, Molly Michie & Gina Adams

[Facilitating Access to Early Care and Education for Children Experiencing Homelessness](#) (OPRE Research Brief #2020-12). (2020) Sara H. Shaw, Ashley Hirilall & Tamara Halle

[How Well Are Early Care and Education Providers Who Serve Hispanic Children Doing on Access and Availability? \(Publication No. 2017-49\).](#) (2017) Lina Guzman, Shelby Hickman, Kimberly Turner & Lisa A. Gennetian

[Parents with Nontraditional Work Schedules in Connecticut: Implications for Child Care.](#) (2021) Gina Adams, Cary Lou, Peter Willenborg & Diane Schilder

[Supporting Immigrant Providers and Families Through Child Care Relief Funds.](#) (2021). Tiffany Ferrette

Explore more [resources on special populations in this curated list](#) from Research Connections.

Universal Prekindergarten

[Characteristics of Approved Universal Prekindergarten Programs in Vermont in 2018/19](#) (REL 2021-070). (2021). Claire W. Irwin & Audrey Gallo

[Preschool for All?: Enrollment and Maternal Labour Supply Implications of a Bilingual Preschool Policy.](#) (2020). Eric W. Chan

[Setting the Stage for Universal Preschool: Is Transitional Kindergarten Serving Students Equitably?](#)

(2022). Laura E. Hill & Emmanuel Prunty

[*Setting the Stage for Universal Preschool: Is Transitional Kindergarten Serving Students Equitably?: Technical Appendices.*](#) (2022). Laura E. Hill & Emmanuel Prunty

Explore more [resources on universal Pre-K in this curated list](#) from Research Connections.

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